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# Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on the Passing of Former New York City Ed Koch

February 1st, 2013

**ANNAPOLIS, MD** – Governor Martin O'Malley issued the following statement on the passing of former New York City Mayor Ed Koch:

"I am saddened to learn of the passing of my friend, Ed Koch. He was a good mayor, a wise man of character, and a strong leader in tough times. He believed in the goodness of the people of New York City, a timeless attribute that amplifies his legacy.

"We will miss him dearly, and my thoughts are with his family at this time."

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# Governor Martin O'Malley on the Baltimore Ravens' Super Bowl Victory

February 3rd, 2013

## Government House and State House dome illuminated in "Ravens Purple"

**NEW ORLEANS, LA** – Governor Martin O'Malley tonight issued the following statement on the Baltimore Ravens victory in Super Bowl XLVII:

"The Baltimore Ravens have proven that they are the team of destiny this year. We are incredibly proud of Coach John Harbaugh and our entire Baltimore Ravens team for bringing the Lombardi Trophy back to Baltimore.

"Our Ravens have provided an inspirational lift for all of us to reach beyond our dreams this season. They are the heart and soul of Baltimore, and fans across our great State are celebrating in the historic accomplishments of this team. We look forward to the Ravens homecoming and the parade in the days to come.

"Congratulations to Joe Flacco for being named Most Valuable Player. We also wish Ray Lewis well in his future endeavors, and we are forever grateful for what he has done for Baltimore for 17 years. Go Ravens!"



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# Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown Highlight Initiatives to Create Jobs for More Marylanders

February 7th, 2013

## Governor testifies on EARN bill; Governor and Lt. Governor testify on Veterans Full Employment Act

## Governor also accepts recommendations from the Federal Facilities Advisory Board to drive innovation and create jobs in Maryland

**ANNAPOLIS, MD** – Governor Martin O'Malley and Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown today highlighted initiatives to create jobs for more Marylanders, testifying on the Employment Advancement Right Now (EARN) initiative and the Veterans Full Employment Act of 2013 – two components of the Administration's jobs agenda for the 2013 legislative session.

"The greatest assets we have are the talents and skills of our people. Maryland has built up one of the most highly-skilled workforces in the nation, but together we can do more to ensure that every Marylander has the opportunity to learn and earn," said Governor O'Malley. "That's why this session, we are fighting to pass the EARN bill to allow us to partner with businesses to equip more workers with the skills they need to fill the jobs in highest demand, and the Veterans Full Employment Act so we can remove barriers to employment for our veterans and their spouses."

A joint effort with Senate President Miller and House Speaker Busch, Governor O'Malley's proposed FY 2014 budget includes a \$2.5 million investment to create a competitive grant process to bridge the gap between specific employer workforce needs and the skills of Maryland's workers. The grant will be managed by the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation to encourage regional workforce training collaborations among businesses, non-profits, institutions of higher education, community college, local workforce investment boards, local governments, and various types of workforce training providers. These employer-driven partnerships will serve to identify common workforce needs for high-demand occupations within a target industry such as construction, traditional and advanced manufacturing, cyber security, and health care; and develop and implement education or training strategies to address those shortages.

The Veterans Full Employment Act removes certain barriers to employment that service members often face when making the transition from military service to the civilian workforce. The bill also expedites the occupational and professional licensing process for military spouses when a military family moves to Maryland.

"As a Veteran, I believe we have a sacred obligation to honor the service and sacrifice made by our veterans, active-duty military, and their families. This legislation is an important step

forward in meeting that goal,” said Lt. Governor Brown, a Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves and the nation’s highest ranking elected official to have served a tour of duty in Iraq. “With this bill, we have a chance to ensure that veterans have every opportunity to enjoy the benefits they’ve earned, and make it easier for military spouses to find work when their families are transferred to Maryland.”

Earlier today, [the Governor also accepted the recommendations from the Federal Facilities Advisory Board](#) – a strategic plan that outlines 25 actions the State can take to better leverage the potential of government labs, military installations and other federal facilities to drive innovation and create jobs in Maryland. The board’s strategic plan covers six broad priorities: aligning state resources with federal priorities; promoting cyber security business and innovation growth; positioning federal contractors for sustainability and growth; expediting infrastructure improvements that impact federal facilities; developing a pipeline of highly-qualified workers to fill the federal workforce; and deploying technology transfer and commercialization resources to accelerate innovation and entrepreneurship.

“I want to thank the Board members for their hard work to help us develop a sustainable plan to leverage crucial federal assets and take full advantage of their job-creating potential,” the Governor said.

To view the O'Malley-Brown Administration's entire legislative agenda for this session, [click here](#).

To view the Administration's proposed FY 2014 budget that makes the better choices to support 43,000 jobs in the capital budget, and protects priorities in education, job creation, innovation and infrastructure, [click here](#).



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# Governor Martin O'Malley Promotes Innovative Initiatives to Give Students Skills to Compete

February 11th, 2013

***Governor visits North Point High School; highlights fiscally responsible budget that protects investments in education, prepares students for the jobs of tomorrow***

**WALDORF, MD** - Governor Martin O'Malley today, joined by students, educators and other officials, promoted the Administration's continued commitment to public education with a visit to North Point High School, a unique school with a rigorous academic program that promotes innovative skills and technical training to provide students with the tools they need for a highly-competitive 21st century workforce.

For an unprecedented five years in a row, Maryland's schools have been named #1 in the nation by Education Week Magazine. Even with more than \$8.3 billion in spending cuts over seven years, the O'Malley-Brown Administration has maintained a strong commitment to Maryland's public schools, increasing its investments in public education by 51 percent since FY 2006 and proposing a record \$6 billion in Maryland's public schools in FY 2014.

"Because of the better choices we've made together to invest in our children's future, we're able to continue our commitment to Maryland's number-one-in-the-nation public schools," said Governor O'Malley. "But we must continue to promote innovation in our classrooms to prepare our students for the jobs of tomorrow. That's why we're investing \$7 million in this year's budget to accelerate the conversion of schools to comprehensive digital learning environments, support accelerated pathways for students seeking CTE or STEM training, and increase access to postsecondary education."

The proposed FY 2014 budget includes a \$7 million investment in two new and innovative initiatives to give students the tools they need to compete:

### Digital Learning Innovation Fund

To advance Maryland's efforts to harness the potential of new and emerging technologies, the Governor's proposed FY 2014 budget includes a \$5 million investment in a Digital Learning Innovation Fund to provide resources to local school districts to accelerate their conversion to comprehensive digital learning environments. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) will create competitive grants from the fund to be distributed to districts that propose the most compelling plans for conversion to digital learning. Separate competitions will be held for large and small districts to ensure that districts of varying size are selected for funding. Supported activities would include: provision of multimedia assets to students and teachers, differentiation of instruction to address diverse learning styles, differentiation of assignments and leveling of materials for students advancing at different paces, training and support to both

educators and students, and offering more current information than traditional textbooks on an ongoing basis. The State and some districts have already instituted some digital learning, including shared purchasing, online courses, recovery courses, eReaders, ePortfolios and hardware conversions.

### Early College Innovation Fund

The Administration remains committed to increasing access to postsecondary education and helping students obtain credentials that position them to compete for jobs in growing sectors of Maryland's economy. The Governor's proposed budget includes a \$2 million investment to create an Early College Innovation Fund to support the expansion of early college access programs that provide accelerated pathways for students seeking career and technical education (CTE) or training in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) disciplines. Under the initiative, MSDE will generate competitive grants to fund partnerships of local school systems and higher education institutions to create early college high schools or other forms of early college access. The support would bridge funding intended to help eligible partnerships bear some of the start-up costs associated with creating new early college programs.

Priority would be given to proposals that launch early college high schools (also known as "middle colleges") focused on CTE or STEM and that provide students with credentials (in the form of degrees, certificates, and certifications, as appropriate) in fields for which there is high-demand in Maryland.

The state's most successful model for Early College High School is the Academy of Health Sciences, which was created in partnership with Prince George's County Public Schools and Prince George's Community College. Upon graduation each student earns both a high school diploma and an associate's degree in health sciences.



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# Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on President Obama's State of the Union Address

February 12th, 2013

**WASHINGTON, DC** - Governor Martin O'Malley issued this statement following President Obama's State of the Union Address this evening:

*"The President made a persuasive case tonight for why we must begin to make better choices as a nation. Progress is a choice. Job creation is a choice. And whether we give our children a future of more or a future of less, this too is a choice.*

*"The better choices the President laid out will achieve better results. They're choices that prioritize the safety of our streets, schools, and places of worship. They're choices to implement forward-looking policies to address the consequences of climate disruption and bring some thoughtfulness to our immigration system. And they're choices based on the sound fiscal policy of a balanced approach, where eliminating government waste and cutting spending responsibly are paired with investments in core priorities like promoting innovation, improving our schools, and rebuilding the nation's infrastructure.*

*"We know this balanced approach works because it's what we've done in Maryland over the last six years. And, even in the toughest of times, we've seen the results: a stronger middle class and a stronger Maryland. Maryland is #1 in education five years in a row, #1 in holding down the cost of college, #1 in innovation and entrepreneurship, #1 in research and development, and #1 in median family income.*

*"It's time for Congress to do its part and work with President Obama to make these better choices. Only with their help can we truly build a stronger middle class and stronger America."*

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# Governor O'Malley Launches the Maryland Love Project

February 15th, 2013

## *First-ever statewide crowd sourced project will create both on and offline public art displays*

**ANNAPOLIS, MD** - Today Governor Martin O'Malley launched an online portal where people can submit all of the reasons why they love Maryland by sharing a photo, tweet or story. Submissions will be displayed at [love.maryland.gov](http://love.maryland.gov) – a website created and coded by students in the STEM Engine program at the Digital Harbor Foundation. In the early summer, an artist from the Baltimore Love Project will interpret the online submissions and create a mural for display in Baltimore City.

"By harnessing the power of crowd sourcing, we'll be able to showcase all of the reasons why people love Maryland while shining a light on the important role that the arts and technology play in our communities," said Governor Martin O'Malley.

The Maryland Love Project is a partnership between the State of Maryland, the Maryland State Arts Council, the Baltimore Love Project and the Digital Harbor Foundation's STEM Engine program. The online portal was created by four middle school and high school students and two mentors during a 7-hour hack-day at the recently opened Digital Harbor Foundation Tech Center.

"By designing and creating the website for the Maryland Love project, high school students in the Digital Harbor Foundation's STEM Engine program took a little piece of ownership on a project that they should be proud of and that all of Maryland should truly love," said Shelly Blake-Plock, Co-Executive Director of Digital Harbor Foundation.

Members of the public can add submissions to the site by tweeting using the hashtag #MDLove or adding an entry directly to the website. From die hard Orioles fans to those who couldn't imagine life without Old Bay and Maryland crabs, everyone has a reason why they love Maryland.

"The Maryland Love Project is a reflection of the creativity and the spirit of community that exist in our state. Public art has a powerful way of reinforcing those connections in beautiful and interesting ways," said Theresa Colvin, Director, Maryland State Arts Council.

"From concept to execution, this will be an exciting project for all those involved. The call for response from the entire State of Maryland will make for a rich dialogue and product, and I am confident that this mural will be a major accomplishment for the state of Maryland. The Baltimore Love Project is very honored to be a part of it," said Michael Owen, Lead Artist and founder of Baltimore Love Project.

**[About the Maryland State Arts Council](#)**

The Maryland State Arts Council, an agency of the Maryland Department of Business & Economic Development, Division of Tourism, Film and the Arts, is dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive. The mission of the council is to encourage and invest in the advancement of the arts for the people of Maryland. In Fiscal Year 2011, Maryland State Arts Council grantees' activities support more than 11,000 jobs and generate \$1 billion in local economic activity and \$37.8 million in state and local taxes. For more information, visit [www.msac.org](http://www.msac.org)

#### **About the Baltimore Love Project:**

[The Baltimore Love Project](#) is a street art movement initiated in Baltimore Maryland in 2009. Its mission is to express love by connecting people and communities through love themed murals. Our vision is thoughtful art accessible to all people.

#### **About the STEM Engine Program at the Digital Harbor Foundation:**

STEM Engine is a program being offered through the Digital Harbor Foundation. The program finds students with appropriate skill sets in the areas of web and mobile app development and provides them with an opportunity to gain work experience by building real projects for clients. Students receive payment for the work that they do, which is banked into a scholarship account for each individual. STEM Engine provides a link between students and the tech job market in a very real way.

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# Governor Martin O'Malley Promotes Cybersecurity Initiatives to Create Jobs and Fuel Innovation

February 19th, 2013

## *Highlights creation of new Cybersecurity Tax Credit*

### ***Announces Director of Cyber Development to bolster Maryland's efforts as the epicenter of cybersecurity***

**HANOVER, MD** – Governor Martin O'Malley today promoted the Administration's efforts to create jobs in cybersecurity and fuel Maryland's Innovation Economy during a tour at KEYW – one of more than 11,000 dynamic and thriving Maryland companies that lead the development of new products and services to protect the nation from the growing threat of cyber attacks.

"Creating jobs is our top priority," said Governor O'Malley. "The most important assets we have to make Maryland the epicenter of cybersecurity and expand our Innovation Economy are the talents, skills, education, and creativity of our people. That's why, together, we're focused on making our schools, community colleges, and public universities as strong as they can be; expanding partnerships among businesses, government, research and academic institutions; and leveraging our close proximity to the nation's capital."

In the proposed FY2014 budget, the Governor unveiled a \$3 million investment to create a new Cybersecurity Tax Credit to leverage Maryland's assets for job creation, opportunity, and economic growth. Designed to stimulate private investment in early-stage cybersecurity technology companies in Maryland, the program is modeled after the highly-successful Biotechnology Investment Incentive Tax Credit, and provides a 33 percent refundable tax credit for qualified investors in seed- and early-stage cybersecurity companies.

Today, Governor O'Malley also announced Jeani Park as Maryland's Director of Cyber Development. Park will lead the Administration's efforts to position Maryland as the epicenter of cybersecurity activity, supporting product development, education and talent; working to attract new cyber companies and investors to Maryland; encouraging the continued expansion of cybersecurity programs and assisting start-up cyber firms. Next week, Park will lead the CyberMaryland delegation – comprised of academic, private sector and government partners – to San Francisco for RSA, the nation's leading cybersecurity conference.

The Governor added, "We are fortunate to have someone with Jeani's experience, expertise and insight to help guide Maryland's cyber initiative and continue the growth of innovation in our State. Given her background as a successful technology professional who has worked in Silicon Valley and Austin, she will be instrumental in supporting entrepreneurs and building the pipeline for cyber venture capital deals tied to *InvestMaryland*."

Park will also work with Gaithersburg-based National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to develop the National Cyber Center of Excellence, and coordinate the third annual

CyberMaryland Conference in October with the Federal Business Council and other partners.

Park's professional career has been focused in commercial cybersecurity. She has played a key role in Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) partnerships, joint development projects and technology acquisitions that drove revenue and strategic value. She has a successful track record of spearheading product strategy, product management and product marketing for companies such as Hewlett Packard, Access 360, Dell, Trend Micro, Mirage Networks, Extreme Networks, and SpectorSoft. She earned a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Northwestern University and an M.B.A. from Vanderbilt University. She is active in the cybersecurity educational organization Infragard.

Governor O'Malley and Michigan Governor Rick Snyder lead the National Governors Association (NGA) Resource Center on Cybersecurity. This weekend, the Governor will take Maryland's cyber agenda to the nation's capital at the NGA Winter Meeting.

The O'Malley-Brown Administration maintains an aggressive cybersecurity agenda. Maryland has been named #1 in the nation for Innovation and Entrepreneurship by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Today, Maryland has the eighth fastest job recovery rate in the nation and remains a global leader in high-growth industries like life sciences and cybersecurity. Through the Maryland Innovation Initiative, *InvestMaryland* and the Maryland Venture Fund, Maryland's businesses continue to grow and remain on the cutting edge of innovation and technology. Fifteen Maryland colleges and universities – more than any other state – have been designated Centers for Academic Excellence by the National Security Administration and the Department of Homeland Security. In 2012, more than 3,300 students graduated from Maryland colleges and universities with degrees in Computer and Information Science- a nearly 11 percent increase since 2006.

### About CyberMaryland

Launched in January 2010, the CyberMaryland initiative brings together federal, state and local government; private businesses; academia; and workforce to address challenges to the security of our nation's digital infrastructure, reinforce Maryland's leadership in cybersecurity and information technology, and help the state fulfill its responsibility to support the nation's cybersecurity mission while maximizing the benefits to and opportunities for Maryland. For more information, visit [www.CyberMaryland.org](http://www.CyberMaryland.org) or follow @CyberMaryland on Twitter.



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# Maryland Students Continue to Rank Number One on Advanced Placement Tests

February 20th, 2013

## Maryland Achieves Seventh Straight Year of Leading the Nation in Top Scores

**ANNAPOLIS, MD** – Governor Martin O'Malley today released the following statement after the College Board announced that Maryland students have achieved yet another number one national ranking in Advanced Placement (AP) success.

"Because of the better choices we've made together to invest in our children's future, we've built the #1 public schools in the nation. Thanks to our hardworking students, our dedicated educators and our outstanding parents, Maryland's high school students have achieved the nation's best performance on AP exams for seven years in a row – outperforming their peers and gaining the skills they need to learn, earn and grow in the future.

"The most important investments we make as a people are investments in public education. Even in the toughest times, we've chosen to increase school funding 45% since 2006. Those investments are giving our principals, our teachers and our students the resources to continue to lead the nation in graduation rates, student achievement and the highest participation rate in AP science, technology, engineering and math exams in our state's history."

According to the College Board's "Annual AP Report to the Nation," the percentage of Maryland seniors who earned a score of 3 or higher on one or more AP exams reached 29.6 in 2012, the highest percentage in the nation and an increase over the 27.9 percent tallied in 2011.

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# Governor O'Malley Announces Appointment of Nina R. Harper as Delegate in Baltimore City's 45th Legislative District

February 22nd, 2013

**ANNAPOLIS, MD** - Governor Martin O'Malley today announced the appointment of Nina R. Harper as delegate in Baltimore City's 45th legislative district, filling the vacancy left by the passing of Hattie N. Harrison.

"Nina Harper has spent many years working to improve the opportunities and quality of life for members of the Oliver community," said Governor O'Malley. "With experience as a community activist and working with members of the business community and local and state government, I am confident Nina Harper will serve the people of Baltimore City with distinction. I appreciate the hard work of the members of the Baltimore City Democratic Central Committee in considering many qualified candidates to represent the citizens of the 45th district."

Since 2004, Ms. Harper has served as the executive director of the Oliver Community Association and the Oliver Economic Development Corporation. In that role, she manages the day-to-day operations of the office of housing and community development and serves as a liaison between Oliver community residents and government agencies and businesses. Ms. Harper has also organized and implemented community outreach programs and activities for area youth and seniors. Previously she served as a consultant at Harper and Associates where she provided consulting services to non-profit organizations.

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# Governor Martin O'Malley Named Co-Chair of Council of Governors

February 25th, 2013

**WASHINGTON, DC** - President Barack Obama has named Governor Martin O'Malley co-chair of the Council of Governors, [an entity created by the President that recognizes the important role that state and local governments play in homeland security and defense](#). The Council brings governors and key federal officials together to address issues associated with the National Guard, homeland security and defense support to civil authorities.

Governor O'Malley, who was first appointed to the Council in 2010, will be joined by Iowa Governor Terry Branstad as co-chair. The council consists of ten governors, five Democrats and five Republican, as well as the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the President's Homeland Security and Counterterrorism Advisor, the Commander of U.S. Northern Command, and the Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

"Protecting the safety and security of the people we serve is the first priority of all elected officials," said Governor O'Malley. "Together, with our federal, state and local partners, we're working to build a more resilient Maryland and a more resilient nation."

Every day, the O'Malley-Brown Administration works to ensure that the State remains prepared for the worst and able to quickly bounce back in case of a disaster. "One of the first issues addressed by the Council of Governors was 'Dual Status Command,' which was identified as the best solution to address governors' long-standing concerns regarding the need to ensure coordination between state and federal military forces during disaster response," said Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, adjutant general of Maryland. "During Hurricane Sandy, Governor O'Malley implemented the dual status command concept for the first time leading the way in the implementation of one of the major achievements of the Council of Governors and thereby making Maryland a leader in how we respond to emergencies."

The Governor is also co-chair of the National Governors Association Special Committee on Homeland Security and Public Safety and serves on the U.S. Homeland Security Advisory Council to help shape national homeland security policy.

[The O'Malley-Brown Administration continues to make steady progress to enhance the security of Maryland's critical infrastructure](#). In December 2012 the State completed the first phase of a statewide 700 MHz interoperable public safety radio system. This radio system provides clear, digital communication between responder agencies in multiple jurisdictions and is on track to be completed statewide by the end of 2016. The first completed phase covers an area of Central Maryland that includes two-thirds of the State's critical infrastructure, including the Bay Bridge, BWI-Thurgood Marshal Airport, and the Fort McHenry and Baltimore Harbor Tunnels. At many of these same critical facilities, the Administration has also invested heavily in tools like Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) that assist law enforcement agencies in their mission to protect and secure them. Today, first responders in Maryland have access to a shared CCTV network of more than 800 cameras that provide situational awareness of Maryland's roads, bridges, tunnels, and other key transportation assets. In 2012, the U.S. Coast Guard awarded

the Port of Baltimore a near-perfect score in its annual security assessment for the fourth consecutive year.

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# Governor Martin O'Malley Urges Action to Avoid Sequestration

February 27th, 2013

## *Governor details impact of federal sequestration in Maryland*

### *Visits FLIR Systems, a growing advanced manufacturing company affected by looming federal cuts*

**ELKRIDGE, MD** - Governor Martin O'Malley today urged action in Washington to avoid federal sequestration – a series of automatic cuts that threaten job creation and reduce vital services for families and children in Maryland and across the nation.

The Governor visited FLIR Systems, a thermal imaging and threat detection systems manufacturer that employs middle-skill workers – a critical sector of Maryland's economy. FLIR has made a commitment to grow its business in Maryland, but with looming sequester cuts, the expansion remains uncertain.

"These are job-killing cuts that are an economic threat to Maryland," said Governor O'Malley. "Too many moms and dads in our State will lose jobs, too many children will lose access to programs like Head Start, and too many of our most vulnerable Marylanders will lose assistance from the safety net we've worked so hard to protect. If Congress cannot come together with a balanced approach to avoid these automatic cuts, we will reverse much of the progress we've made in Maryland creating jobs and expanding opportunity for more families."

Maryland has recovered nearly 81 percent of the jobs lost during the Bush recession and maintains the eighth fastest jobs recovery rate in the nation, and the fastest jobs recovery rate in the region. Federal sequestration will hinder Maryland's ability to create jobs and slow job growth.

According to the state Department of Budget and Management, the sequester will result in almost \$100 million in federal grant reductions to State and local governments in Maryland. With Maryland's close proximity to the nation's capital, the state's economy remains especially vulnerable to federal cuts – 5.6 percent of Maryland jobs are federal with many more supported directly and indirectly by the federal government. The Maryland Board of Revenue Estimates suggests about 12,600 jobs could be lost in Maryland. [A report from the Center of Regional Analysis at George Mason University](#) suggests that direct, indirect, and induced job losses could approach 115,000, a much more severe estimate that would likely send Maryland into a recession.

To prepare for fiscal uncertainty in Congress, [the Governor increased the State's Rainy Day Fund and cash reserves in the proposed FY 2014 budget.](#)

What does the sequester mean for Maryland?

- An estimated 350 special education teachers will lose their jobs



- About 650 children will be denied early education in Head Start
- Approximately 150 fewer disabled individuals will receive vocational rehabilitation services- the wait list is currently 14 months long
- About 2,500 teachers won't receive the training they need to teach our children
- Projects to upgrade wastewater treatment facilities will be delayed or cancelled
- Approximately 8,600 pregnant women and young children will lose access to nutritious food when Women, Infants and Children (WIC) funding is cut
- About 750 Marylanders will be denied entry into substance abuse treatment programs
- About 430 low-income families will lose their subsidized child care
- The 100,000 Marylanders that use employment services and job training programs annually will have to wait longer to get the training they need- if their training program isn't cut altogether.

Source: *Maryland Department of Budget and Management*



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# Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on Administration's Commitment to Affordable College

February 28th, 2013

**ANNAPOLIS, MD** – This afternoon, Governor Martin O'Malley attended a rally hosted by the University System of Maryland Student Council [supporting the Administration's FY2014 budget that keeps college affordable for more families and makes investments to support innovation at Maryland's colleges and universities](#). The Governor issued the following statement on the Administration's continued commitment to affordable college:

*"Six years ago, Lt. Governor Brown and I committed to making college more affordable for more of our families. And every year of this Administration, even during the toughest of times while cutting more than any administration in state history, we have invested to make this a reality.*

*"Because of the better choices we've made together, Maryland is alone among the 50 states to freeze in-state tuition at our colleges and universities for four years in a row. During that time, the University of Maryland System went from the eighth most expensive in the country to the 27th. And because of those better choices, the College Board says that Maryland has done more than any other state to hold down the cost of college tuition.*

*"If we want to be leaders in science, leaders in security, and leaders in innovation, it all comes down to how well we educate our future generations. We consider this not only to be something good for our State, but essential for our country."*

[According to the College Board](#), Maryland has done more than any other state in the nation to hold down the cost of college with the lowest increase in college tuition in the nation. Alone among the 50 states, Maryland froze in-state tuition at state colleges and universities four years in a row and has held tuition increases to the lowest in the nation for over five years.

[The Governor's proposed FY2014 budget](#) keeps college affordable, protects capital and operating investments in Maryland's universities and community colleges, and makes investments in innovative initiatives like Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, as well as research, entrepreneurship and commercialization of blossoming ideas within the University System of Maryland.

For a fact sheet on the Administration's commitment to higher education and job creation, [click here](#).



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